

Statement on Expediting Small Business Administration Loans for Hurricane Andrew Victims

September 3, 1992

I have just met with Administrator Saiki who informed me that the Small Business Administration has responded to my request to expedite their loan process so that victims of Hurricane Andrew can swiftly receive disaster loan checks. SBA loans that typically require 30 to 60 days will now be processed in just 7 days.

I have also asked the IRS to be on site so that they can provide tax information to the loan applicants whose tax records have been lost or destroyed as a result of the hurricane. Treasury Department officials will also be there to cut the checks

immediately. Today Pat Saiki will depart to Florida and Louisiana to deliver the first disaster loan checks. By the time they are finished, the SBA will have made thousands of loans to businesses and homeowners who are resolved to rebuild their neighborhoods, repair their communities, and get on with their lives.

The SBA is ready to help homeowners and renters qualify for low-interest, long-term loans to rebuild or repair their homes as well as their businesses. Like the rest of the Federal Government, the SBA is in for the long haul.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting Proposed Legislation on Nevada Public Lands Wilderness Designation

September 3, 1992

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

I am pleased to submit for congressional consideration and passage the "Nevada Public Lands Wilderness Act".

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), (43 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*), directs the Secretary of the Interior to review the wilderness potential of the public lands.

The review of the areas identified in Nevada and Lassen County, California, began immediately after the enactment of FLPMA and has now been completed. Approximately 5.2 million acres of public lands in 110 areas in Nevada and Lassen County, California, met the minimum wilderness criteria and were designated as wilderness study areas (WSAs). These WSAs were studied and analyzed during the review process and the results documented in 17 environmental impact statements and eight instant study area reports.

Based on the studies and reviews of the WSAs, the Secretary of the Interior is recommending that all or part of 52 of the WSAs, totaling 1,892,041 acres of public

lands, be designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I concur with the Secretary of the Interior's recommendations and am pleased to recommend designation of the 52 areas (totaling 1,892,041 acres) identified in the enclosed draft legislation as additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The proposed additions represent the diversity of wilderness values in the State of Nevada and Lassen County, California. They range from the Black Rock Desert and the canyons of the Humboldt and Owyhee Rivers, to the ancient bristlecone pines in central Nevada, to the Mojave Desert in southern Nevada and its Joshua trees and desert tortoises. These areas span a wide variety of Nevada landforms, ecosystems, and other natural systems and features. Their inclusion in the wilderness system will improve the geographic distribution of wilderness areas in Nevada and Lassen County, California, and will complement existing areas of congressionally designated wilderness. They will provide new